



ALL NEW STORIES
BEST IN COMICS

NOW
ONLY
20¢



ACTION COMICS

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

NO. 414
JULY
30410

HEY,
WAIT A
MINUTE!
IF THAT'S
SUPERMAN...

...WHO
AM I?

**"SUPERMAN
VS
Superstar"**
PLUS
**THE NEW
METAMORPHO**



THE NEW **THREE-WHEEL** **RRRumblers** ARE HERE!

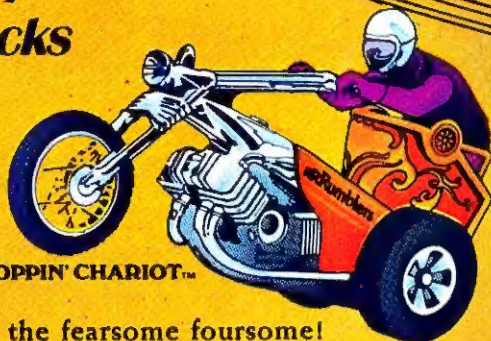


BOLD EAGLE™

*And they're tearing up
HOT WHEELS® Tracks
all over America.*

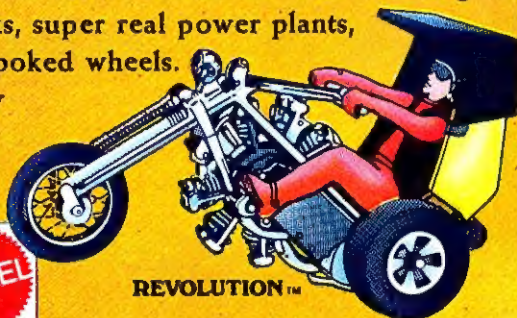


ROAMIN' CANDLE®



CHOPPIN' CHARIOT™

Introducing the fearsome foursome! Chopper trikes with detailing so fantastic each one is a collector's item. Check out their big fat racing slicks, super real power plants, extended front forks and chrome spoked wheels. And the riders are detachable. Buy RRRumblers motorcycles separately or in sets. Get them all...why break up a winning team?

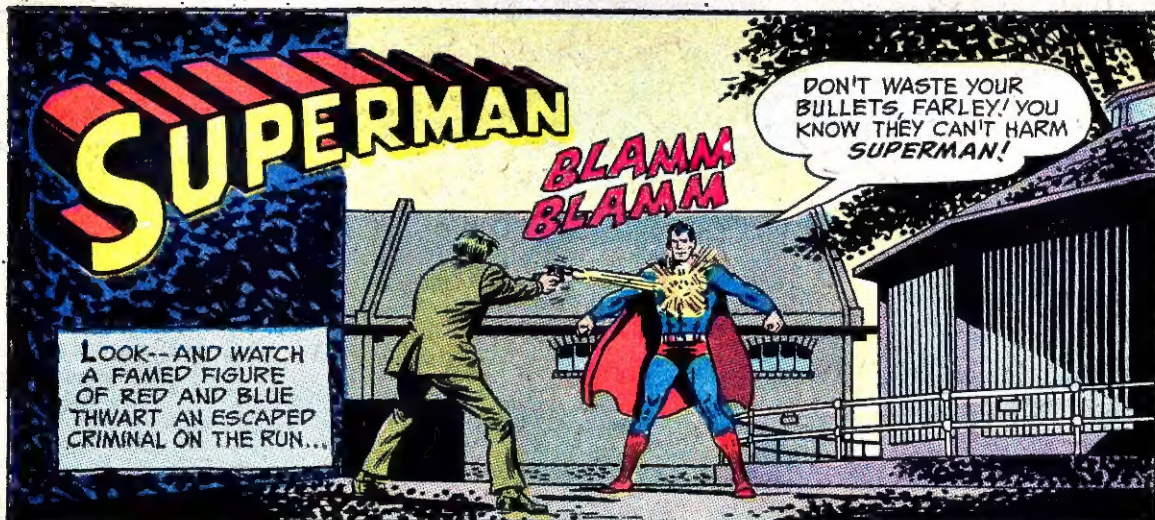


REVOLUTION™

RRRumblers.



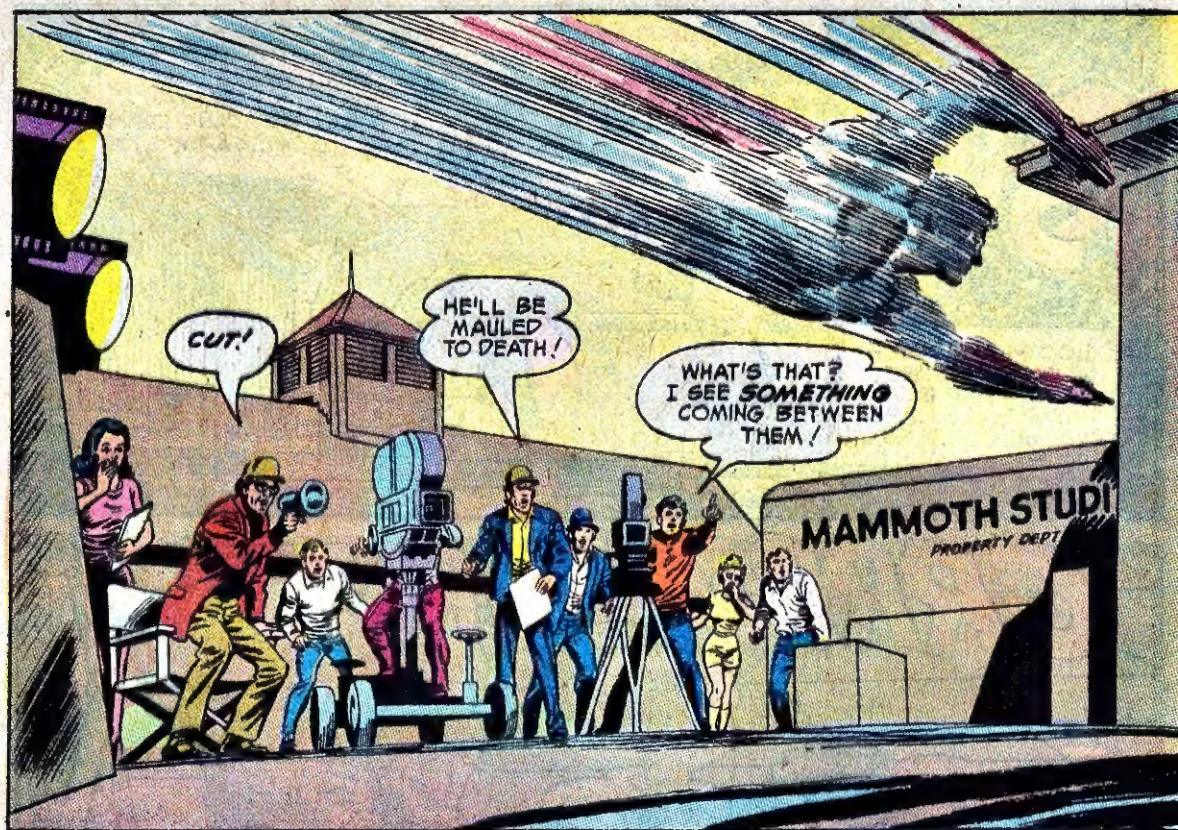
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ACTION COMICS, Vol. 35, No. 414, July, 1972. Published monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022, Carmine Infantino, Publisher, Murray Boltinoff, Editor, E. Nelson Bridwell, Assistant Editor, Sol Harrison, Production Manager, Ed Lolacher, Circulation Director. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y., and additional mailing offices. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright © 1972 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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YOU ARE ON THE SET OF THE LATEST **SUPERMAN** MOVIE--WITH **TWO MEN OF STEEL**! **ONE** IS THE MIGHTIEST HERO IN THE GALAXY! THE **OTHER** IS THE HOLLYWOOD VERSION, AN ORDINARY MAN WHO ONLY WIELDS HIS POWERS ON **FILM**! SO GET READY FOR ACTION-- AND WATCH THE CLASH OF THE CENTURY IN ...

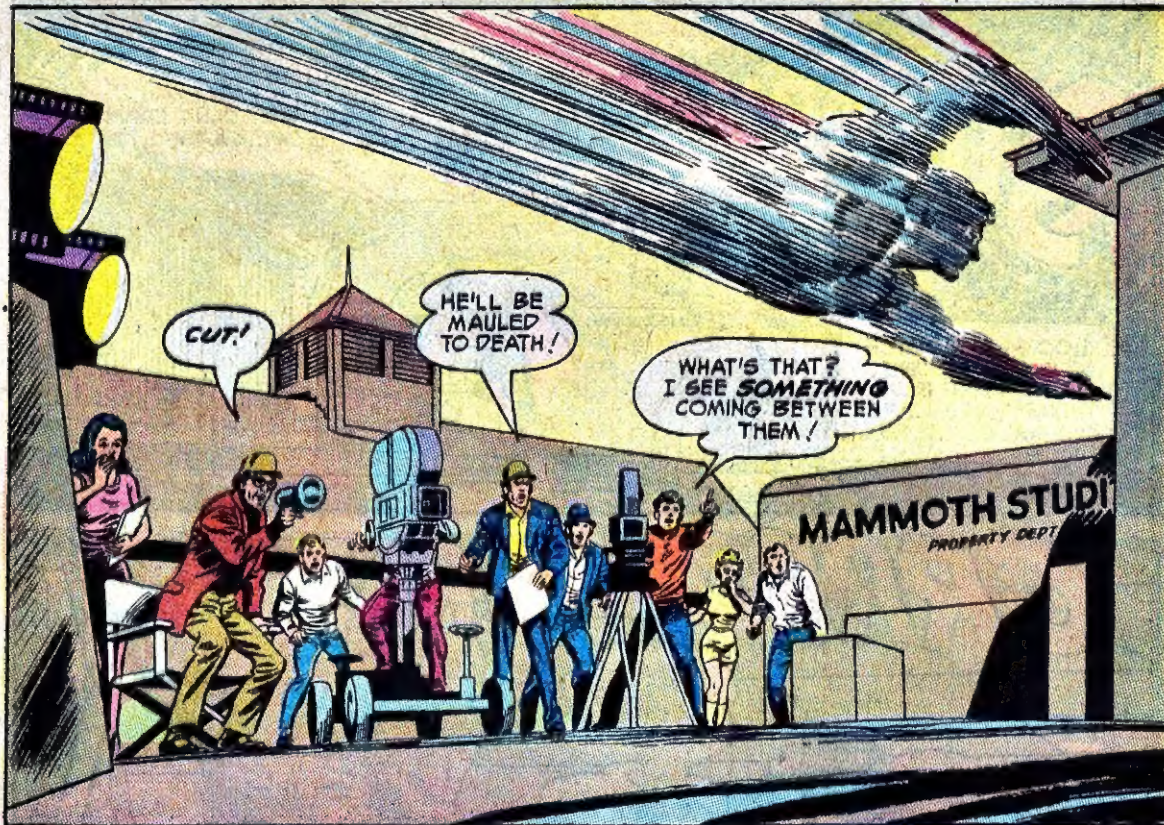


ART - SWAN & ANDERSON
STORY - CARY BATES



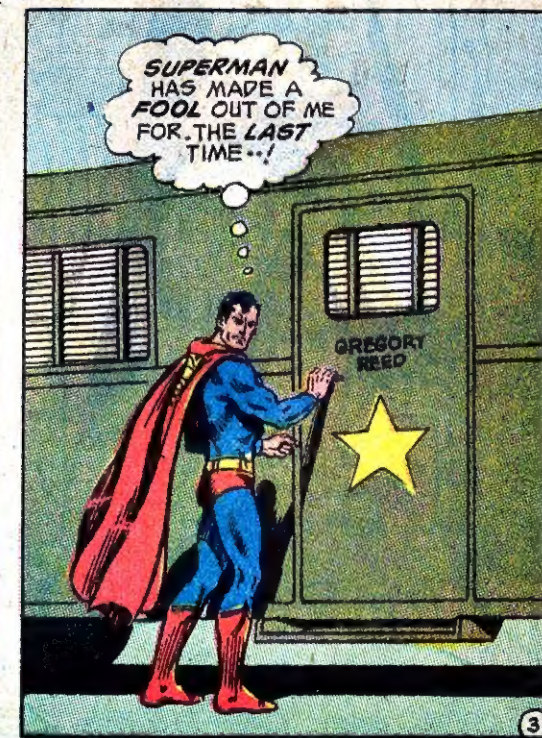
"SUPERMAN vs. SUPERSTAR!"

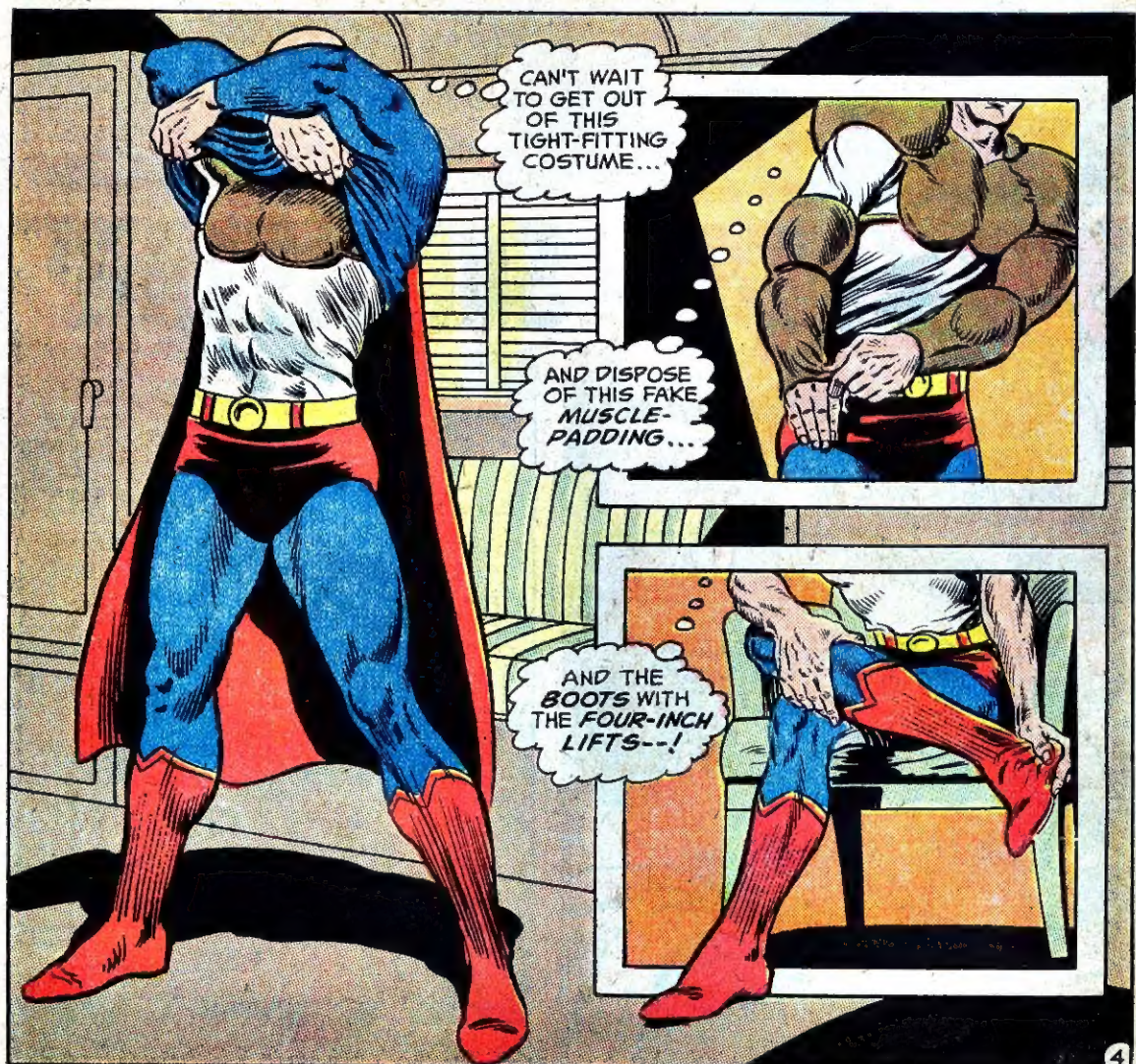


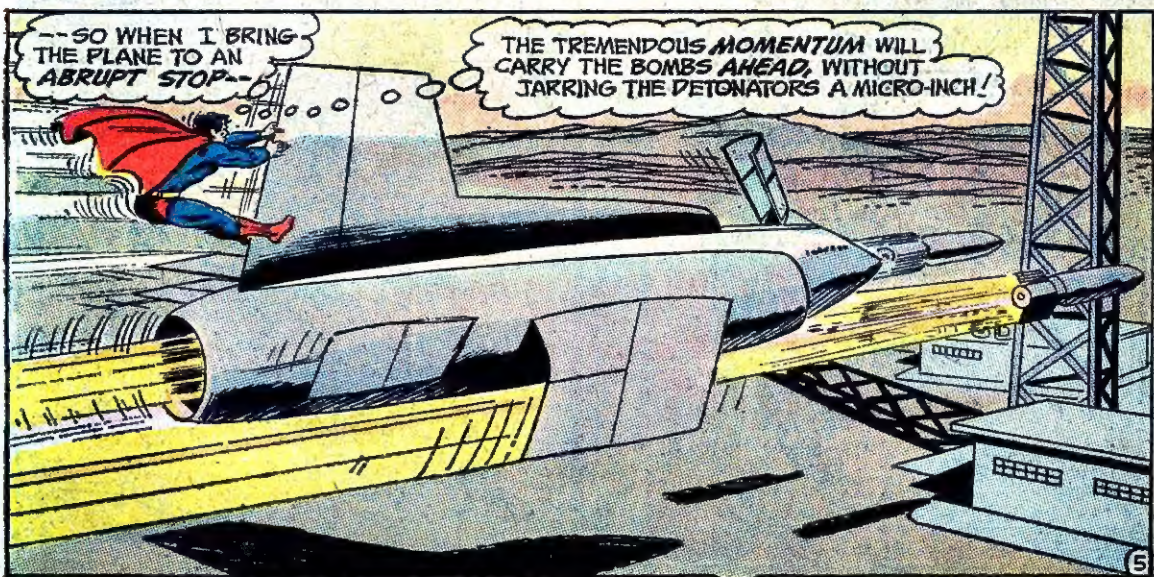
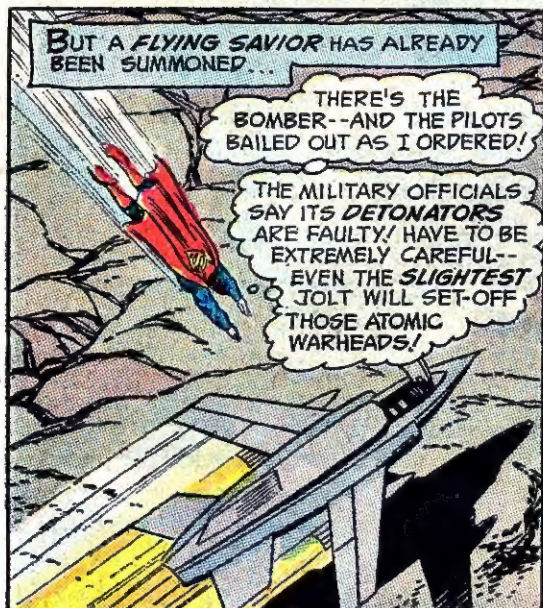


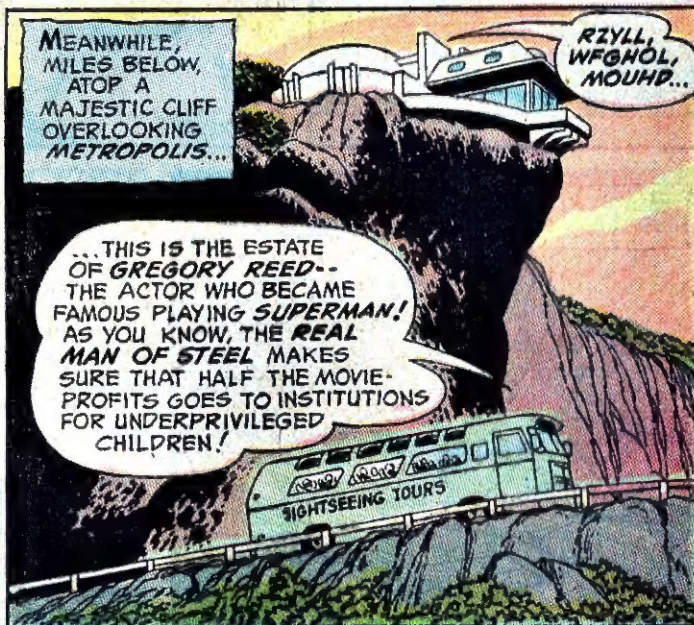
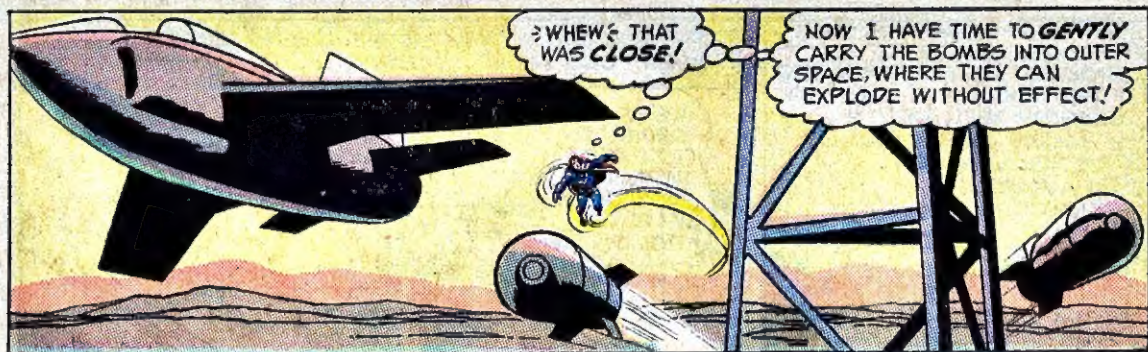
YOU ARE ON THE SET OF THE LATEST SUPERMAN MOVIE--WITH TWO MEN OF STEEL! ONE IS THE MIGHTIEST HERO IN THE GALAXY! THE OTHER IS THE HOLLYWOOD VERSION, AN ORDINARY MAN WHO ONLY WIELDS HIS POWERS ON FILM! SO GET READY FOR ACTION--AND WATCH THE CLASH OF THE CENTURY IN ...

"SUPERMAN vs. SUPERSTAR!"









If you think it just looks real, wait till you shoot it!

Sure, the Daisy "1894" looks just like the rifle that made American frontiersmen some of the best marksmen in the world.

But we didn't make it just for looks. We made it to shoot. So that you can learn marksmanship today, just as they did 80 years ago.

It's got the same balance and feel as the original. Same side-port loading. Same lever action.

Same sights. Even the same thumb-back hammer safety.

It's a fun gun that you and your dad will enjoy practicing marksmanship with.

And, to make your practicing easier and more fun, we'll make you a deal. We'll give you a \$4.00 Trap-Target Kit for just \$1.99 when you buy your Daisy "1894" or any Daisy air-gun.

While you're there, pick up the new "Air Rifle Marksman" booklet (it's loaded with marksman information including local shooting education programs you can join), or send 50¢ to Daisy, Dept. 104, Rogers, Arkansas 72756, and we'll send you a copy by return mail. *Since the 1800's, American boys have learned marksmanship with a Daisy. Now it's your turn.*

DAISY TRAP-TARGET KIT
\$1.99 WITH THE PURCHASE
OF ANY DAISY.

A \$4.00 value

The kit includes: trap frame, Targetex backstop, Daisy Air Rifle Manual, set of NRA 18-foot match targets and a set of "Pop-Out Bullseye" targets.

Daisy

Rogers, Arkansas 72756, Div. Victor
Comptometer Corp. In Canada: Daisy/Hedden, Ltd., Preston, Ontario



TAKE THIS COUPON TO YOUR PARTICIPATING DAISY DEALER

SUDDENLY, OUT OF THE SWIRLING
MYSTICAL VAPORS...

THANK YOU,
MY DEMONIC
FATHERS...

AND FOLLOWING THE UNSPOKEN DIRECTIONS OF AN
EVIL PRESENCE FROM SOME DARK, UNKNOWN BEYOND...

I UNDERSTAND WHAT MUST
BE DONE! I AM MARKING MYSELF
WITH THE BEWITCHED **PENTACLE
OF POWER** AS YOU GUIDE
MY HAND--!

THAT NIGHT, AS THE **WGBS EVENING NEWS**
COMES TO A CLOSE...

...THEN **SUPERMAN** QUICKLY
DETONATED THE ATOMIC WARHEADS
IN OUTER SPACE, WHERE THE FALL-
OUT RADIATION COULDN'T POLLUTE
THE ATMOSPHERE!

AND THAT'S
THE SIX O'CLOCK
REPORT! THIS IS
YOUR NEWSCASTER,
CLARK KENT,
SIGNING OFF!

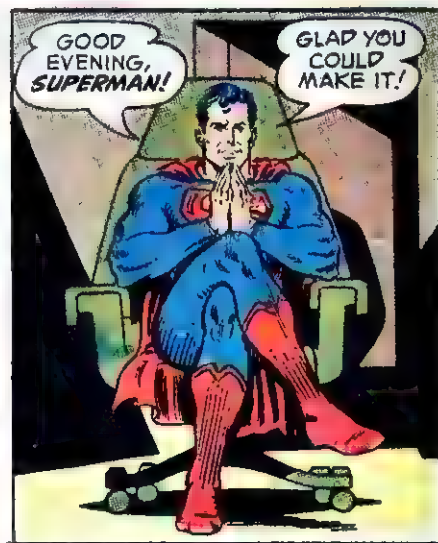
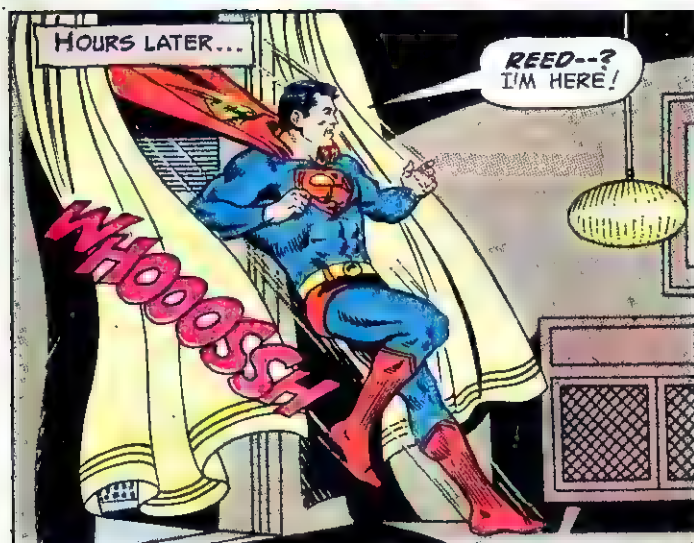
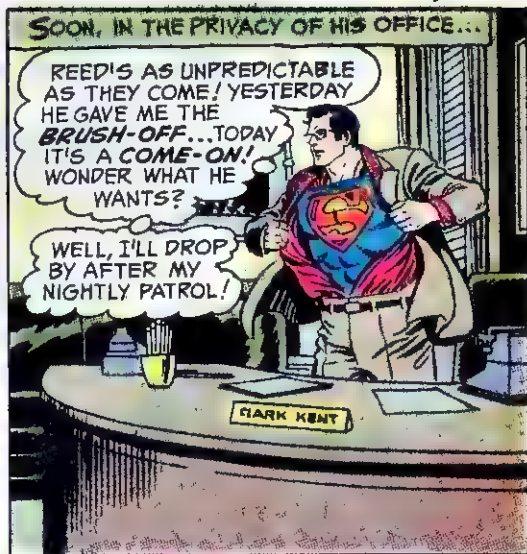
IF ANYONE KNEW
I'M SECRETLY
SUPERMAN, I'D
BE ACCUSED OF
BRAGGING
ABOUT MYSELF!

CALL FOR
YOU, CLARK!

**WGBS
EVENING
NEWS**

MR. KENT...? THIS IS
GREGORY REED! I'M TOLD
YOU CAN CONTACT **SUPERMAN**
... BECAUSE YOU AND HE
ARE CLOSE FRIENDS!

TELL HIM THAT IT'S
POSITIVELY **VITAL** THAT
HE SEE ME TONIGHT
AT MY ESTATE!



WHAT DO THESE CHAMPIONS HAVE IN COMMON...WITH YOU?

MR. OLYMPIA

MR. AMERICA

MR. UNIVERSE



Larry Scott, "Mr. Olympia," was a 136-lb. skinny weakling. He wrote for my free information—just as you should—and now weighs 205 lbs. with 20-inch arms! One of the world's best-built men ever! How about you?



Dave Draper, "Mr. America," once was a fat slob—weighing 255 lbs. Then he wrote for my free information and now weighs 235 lbs. 20½-inch arms, a 55" chest, 32" waist. A real champ! Why wait? Rush!



Reg Lewis, "Mr. Universe," was kicked around because of being skinny, only 138-lbs., and weak. But he sent for free information, now weighs 205 lbs. and is a real champ! Why not you!

THEY ANSWERED A WEIDER AD—GAINED 3 INCHES TO THEIR ARMS—4 INCHES TO THEIR CHEST—IN 7 SHORT WEEKS! YOU TOO?

You, too—just like these champions—can now own a handsome, muscular body—fast! You, too, can now finally follow the exact same instructions these champs did, and in just 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own home, you can instantly slap on 4 inches to your chest and 3 inches to each arm, give yourself lifeguard shoulders, muscularize your waist, get speedy legs, and exercise your body. The techniques are simple, there's nothing complicated, just downright enjoyable!

I don't care if, today, you own the scraggiest, flabbiest or funniest body—whether you're tall or short, young or not-so-young. If you send, under no obligation, for my absolutely free 32-pages of muscle building information, I guarantee you that virtually over-night you will experience a muscle-building miracle; before your eyes, you will see handsome muscles bursting out all over you. They will ripple with power, burst with energy—and for the first time in your life men will envy your body, women admire it, because at last you own a body that brings you fame instead of shame. Let me help you as I did these

champions—who were also weaklings—to put an end to your weakness and shame. Write now for my free information—you'll be so happy you did! After all, you have nothing to lose but your weakness!

A-C-T-I-O-N is the key to strength—make your first He-Man Decision N-O-W! Fill out the coupon right now, rush it to me, and in hours I will send you absolutely free—at my own expense—the exact same muscle building information I sent to these and numerous champions, and to over 5 million other successful students. I am known as the most successful trainer of champions. I have been turning weaklings into "Mr. America's" and "Mr. Universe's" successfully since 1936. Don't pass up this once-in-a-lifetime proven successful offer to trade in your body for the one you always dreamed of having. Remember, you will be following in the proven, safe, scientific footsteps of the World's Best Built Men. So hurry! Put an end to your weakness now. Send for my sensational free offer—good only to males between 13 and 75 in normal good health. This is the most time-tested, results-producing course of all time!

ABSOLUTELY FREE! MUSCLE-BUILDING INFORMATION ON HOW TO BUILD A HANDSOME BODY!



JOE WEIDER, Dept. 80-72P
Trainer of Champions since 1936
25 Maple St., Norwood, N.J. 07648

Dear Joe: Shoot the works! I agree, that just like the champions before me, I want to be a New Man! Rush me your free muscle-building information that I can use right now at home to build a handsome body. I have checked the gains I want to make. I'm enclosing 25c to cover handling and mailing charges. I am under no further obligation in any way.

NAME _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP _____
(Please print clearly)

MAIL COUPON TODAY FOR FREE 32 PAGE COURSE!

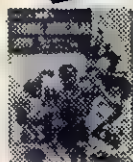
NO OBLIGATION! NOTHING TO BUY!



Here's the kind of body I want (Check as many as you wish).

- ☐ Bigger arms
- ☐ Larger Chest
- ☐ Broader Shoulders
- ☐ Athletic Legs
- ☐ More Weight
- ☐ Lose Weight
- ☐ Magnetic Personality

ABSOLUTELY FREE!



JOE WEIDER
Personal trainer of "Mr. America," "Mr. Universe," "Mr. Canada" perfect men title winners since 1936 — and over 2,000,000 successful pupils the world over!

SUDDENLY, A DAZZLING ARRAY OF UNEARTHLY SPARKS AND SUPERNATURAL MISTS BESIEGES THE TWIN CAPED FIGURES...



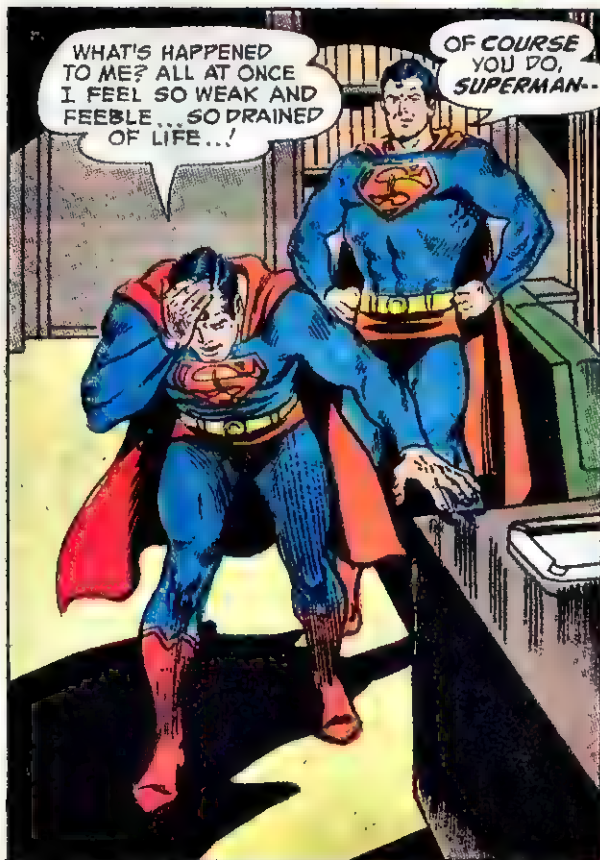
GREAT KRYPTON!
WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

AS THE AIR CLEARS, TWO SUPERMEN ARE STILL STANDING--BUT WITH A STARTLING DIFFERENCE...



AH, THE PLEASURE IS
INDESCRIBABLE!

TO FLEX AND KNOW
THE RAW POWER OF
UNLIMITED STRENGTH...
TO BE UPLIFTED BY THE
FEEL OF THE SUPER-
VITALITY FLOWING
THROUGH THIS INVUL-
NERABLE BODY!
PURE ECSTASY!



WHAT'S HAPPENED
TO ME? ALL AT ONCE
I FEEL SO WEAK AND
FEEBLE... SO DRAINED
OF LIFE...

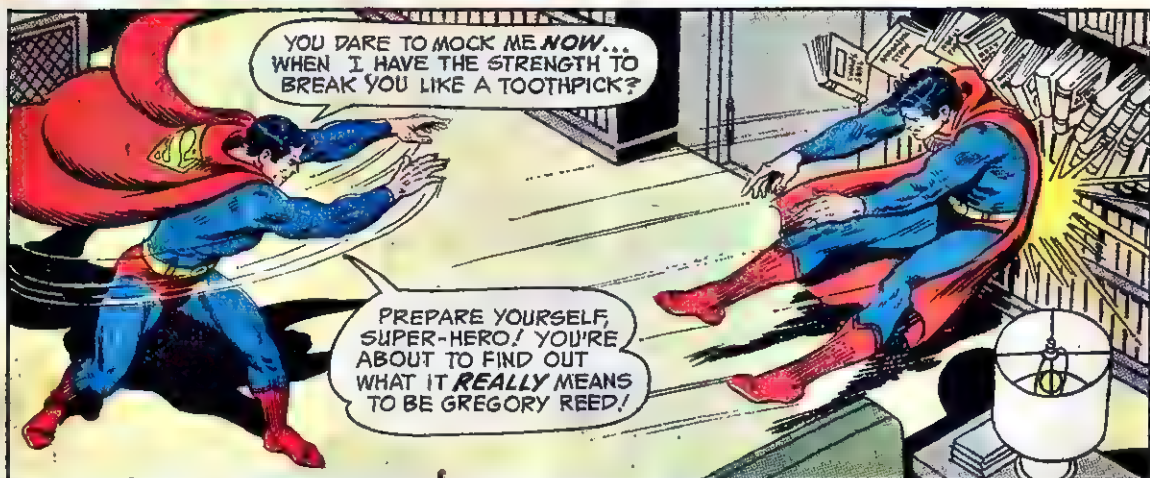
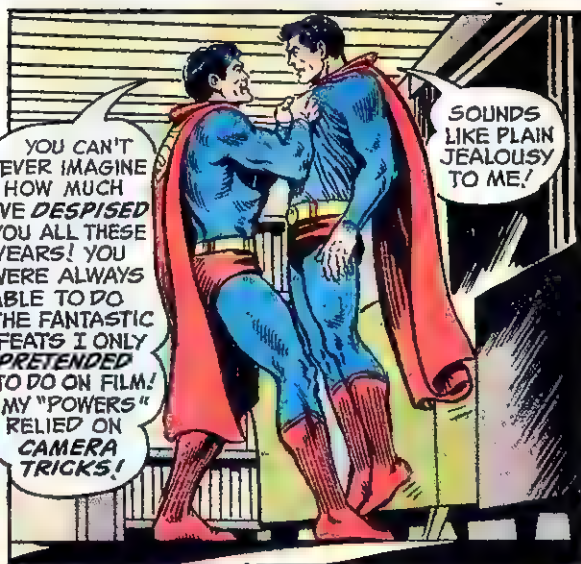
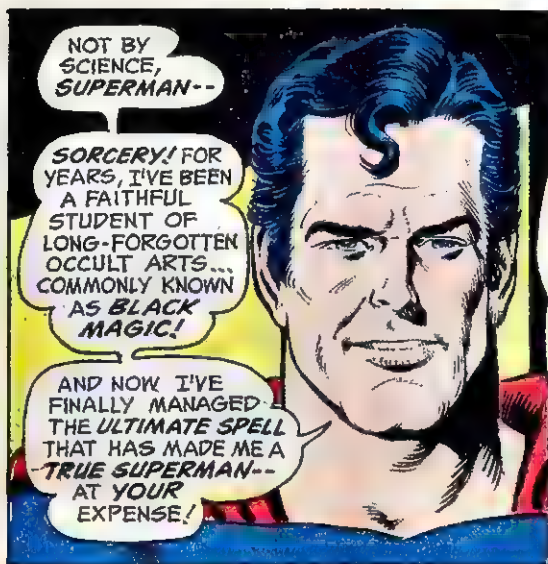
OF COURSE
YOU DO,
SUPERMAN--

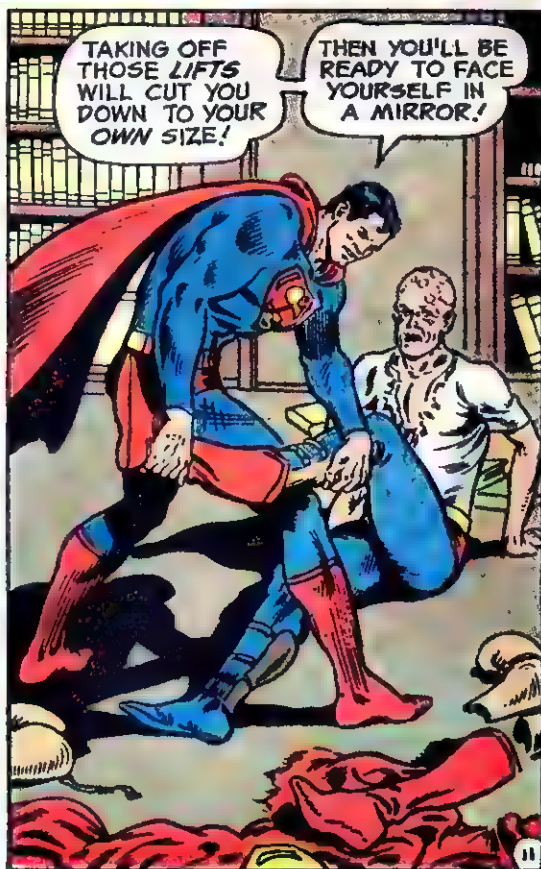
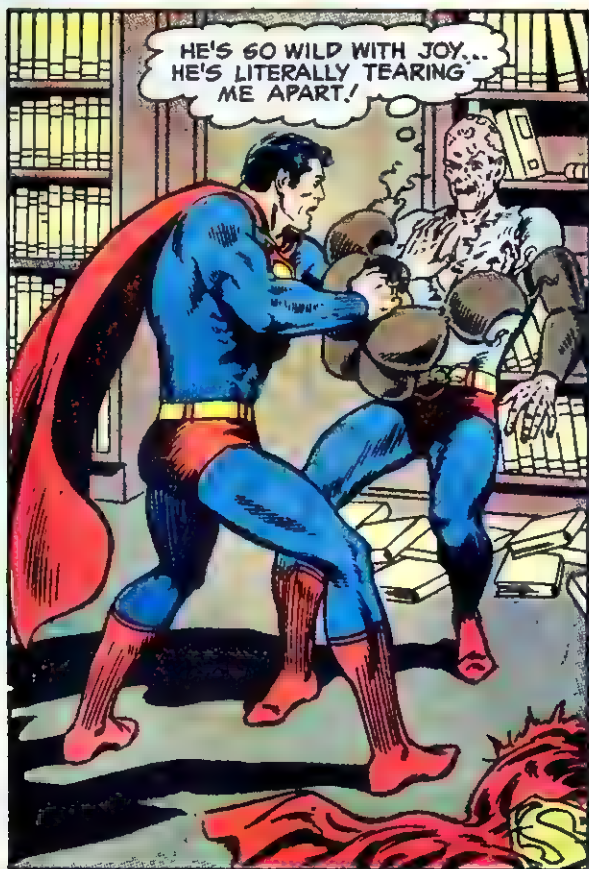
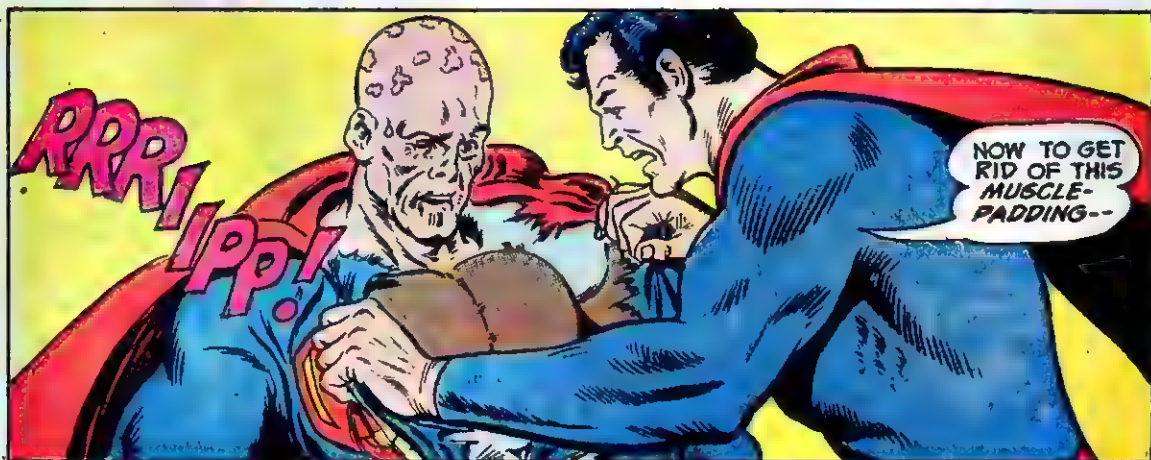


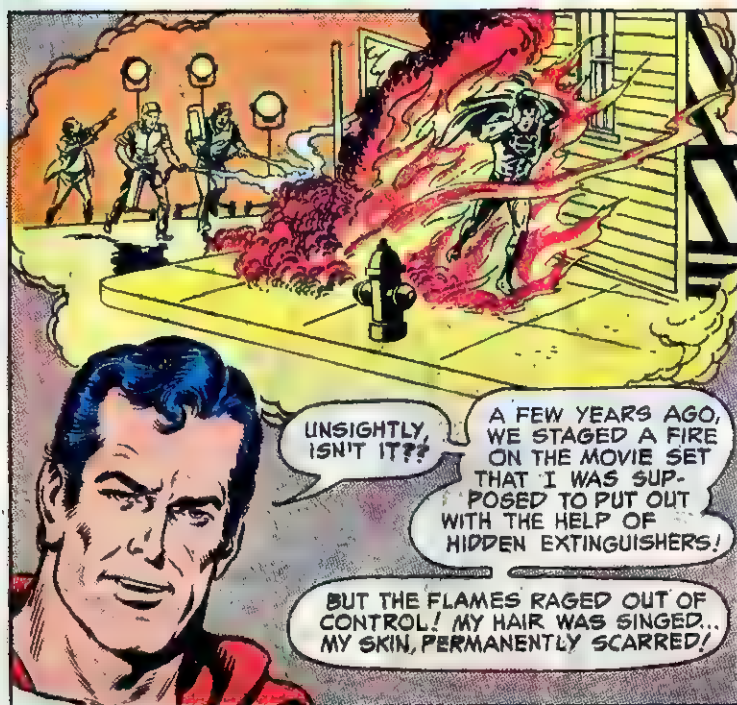
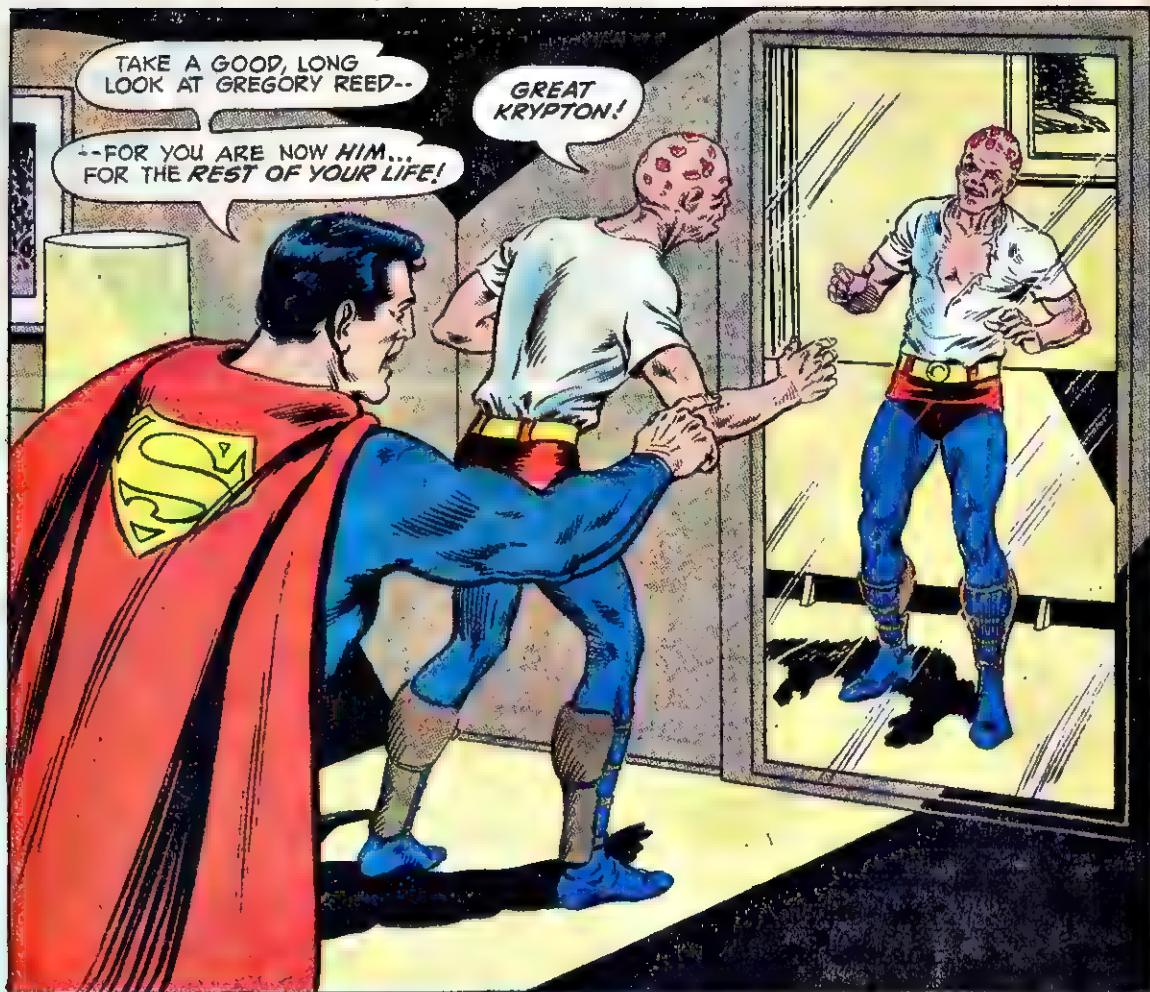
-- BECAUSE
YOUR MIND
HAS BEEN
TRANSFERRED
INTO MY
MORTAL BODY--

-- AND I NOW OCCUPY
YOUR MAGNIFICENT
KRYPTONIAN PHYSIQUE!

UNBELIEVABLE!
A COMPLETE MIND-
SWITCH! YOU ARE
NOW SUPERMAN...
AND I AM YOU! BUT
HOW COULD YOU
POSSESS THE FANTAS-
TIC TECHNOLOGY TO PULL
OFF SUCH
A--









SMOKE CLOUD

Light one and watch the column of thick white smoke rise to the ceiling and expand into a dense cloud. Sensational surprising effect.

No. 971



MUSCLES OF STEEL

Results in just 30 days

Pocket gym stage actor of muscle on your arms and torso. Gain the respect of your friends. The admiration of the girls. Keep fit and healthy. Fear no one! Made of heavy rubber.

No. 7001

only \$1.00



MAGIC CARDS

Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth.

No. 978

only \$1.00



MAGIC CARDS

Deck is marked and shuffled. Can be read from the back but looks like ordinary deck. With instructions for 10 terrific tricks.

No. 102

only \$1.00



XRAY SPEEDS

AN ILLUSION OPTICAL KIDDER

Scientific optical principle really works. With Xray Speeds you seem to be able to look through flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend. Is that really his body you "see" under his clothes?

No. 717

only \$1.00



7 FOOT MONSTER

Bigger than life—frankenstein, the man made monster. Over 7 feet tall, his eyes glow eerily in authentic color on durable polyurethane, as scary as your wildest nightmares.

No. 688

only \$1.00

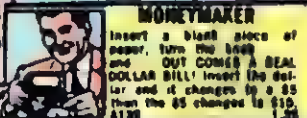


SKIN HEAD WIG

Most people try to grow hair. This is just the opposite. Made of fresh lambd latex to fit all heads, really changes your appearance.

No. 650

only \$1.00



MONEYMAKER

Insert a blank piece of paper, turn the lever and OUT COMES A REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert the dollar and it changes to a \$5 then the \$5 changes to \$10.

No. 7001

only \$1.00



WEREWOLF HORROR MASK

This rubber mask is so grotesque that it is sure to shake up the whole neighborhood. Be the "Wetevolk" that projects again!

No. 204

only \$1.00



SECRET BOOK SAFE

Looks like any book to camouflage your valuables. Secretly locked with your own initials combination. Tough outer structure is covered with simulated leather binding.

No. 700

only \$1.00



JACK POT GAME

Disappearing coin around "ball" works like the game in Las Vegas. Insert coin, pull handle, and watch spin like the real thing. Game is reasonable. Should not be used for gambling.

No. 700

only \$1.00



THROW YOUR VOICE

Throw your voice into tracks, booted doors, everywhere. Fits in your mouth out of sight. Fool teacher, friends, family. Free book on "How to become a Voice-thruster."

No. 177

only \$1.00



RAQUEL WELCH PILLOW

ONLY \$1.98 What man wouldn't want spending a night with Raquel Welch? Well, we can't deliver her, but we can deliver that next best thing—a 12" x 24" ultra-soft pillow of Raquel made of rugged nylon to serve as your headrest. Sleep her for yourself or show her to your friends. Comes up party when everyone sees and feels this great gag item.

No. 15

only \$1.00



KARATE

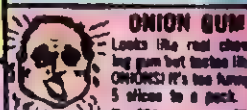
20 Course Home Study Program

FREE! KARATE MOVIES AND CHARTS

20 Best KARATE moves and charts. KARATE French foot fighting. Karate center anatomy chart. JUDO throws. JIU JITSU holds. Isometric muscle building course. Endurance exercise and LOTS MORE.

No. 73

only \$1.00



ONION GUN

Looks like the real thing. Blows gum ball action like ONIONS! It's too funny! 5 onions to a pack.

No. 201

only \$1.00



SILENT DOG WHISTLE

This whistle can't be heard by human ears, but Rover can hear it half a mile away. Your dog will understand that this whistle is for him alone. He responds how quickly he responds.

No. 701

only \$1.00



JOY BUZZER

Whisper nearby you hear like a ring. Your victim gets a "zap-zap" hand shock. Absolutely harmless.

No. 230

only \$1.00



Weighted Wristlets

Power Packed Arm Bandages To give you mighty striking power. Power Packed wristlets build the powerful arms you want without special equipment or hard use. Just wear these resilient lead weighted wristlets during your ordinary activities at work or play.

No. 900

only \$1.00



SEE BEHIND GLASSES

A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing that you're watching.

No. 30

only \$1.00



MONSTER GHOST

Charges Your Command! OVER 7 FEET TALL

Scare the daylights out of your "victim" as this terrifying life size ghost hovers and darts over him. Can be controlled up to 50 feet away so you can hide while watching your victim. Complete instructions included.

No. 101

only \$1.00

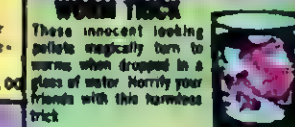


Secret Spy Scope

PER GAZE—ELONGS ON YOUR SECRET! A POWER MAGNIFIER. Six power wide field magnifier is great for watching sporting events, nature study, golf, watching and counter spying. Also contains a 30 power microscope that is tiny but a real optical instrument.

No. 700

only \$1.00



WORM TRUCK

These innocent looking pellets magically turn to worms when dropped in a glass of water. Horrify your friends with this harmless trick.

No. 618

only \$1.00



GROW AMAZING LIVE sea-monkeys INSTANT PETS

What fun and laughs as you watch your 100 full of Sea Monkeys obey your commands, dance to music, and loop-the-loop. A "Variety Show" for the whole family for only \$1. FREE Instruction Book, water purifier, and a FULL YEAR supply of growth food.

No. 115

only \$1.00

MONOR HOUSE PROD. CORP. DEPT. 86 G K 91

30 WILBUR ST. LYNNBROOK, N.Y. 11583

Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days FREE TRIAL for full refund of purchase price.

We cannot accept orders totaling less than \$1.00.

NAME & NUMBER OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

Please add \$1.00 to total order for postage and handling. TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

For COD orders please send \$5.00 good will deposit. Pay postman the balance on delivery plus COD and handling charges.

NAME ADDRESS ZIP

New York State residents add appropriate sales tax.

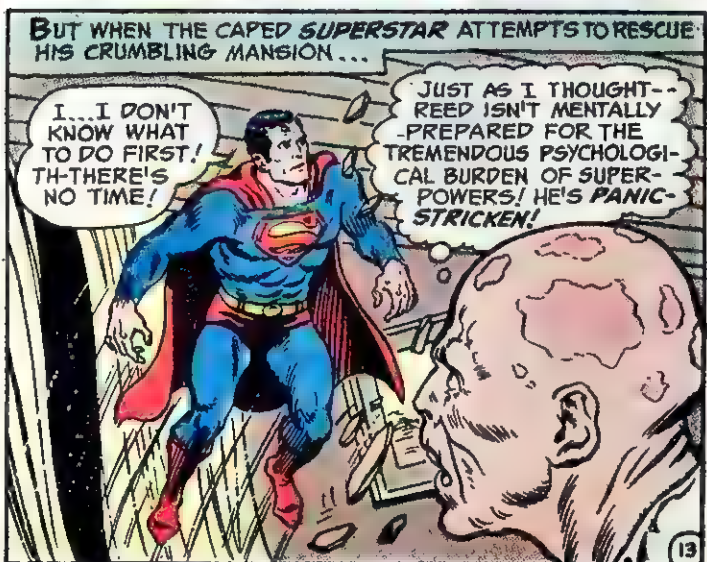
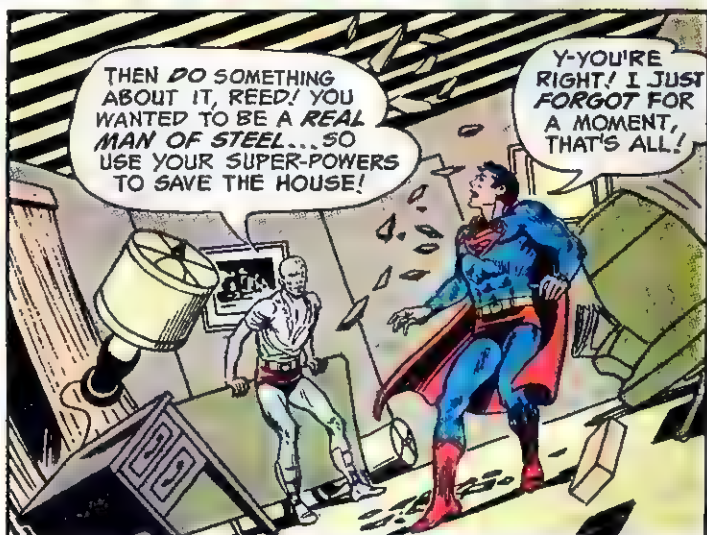
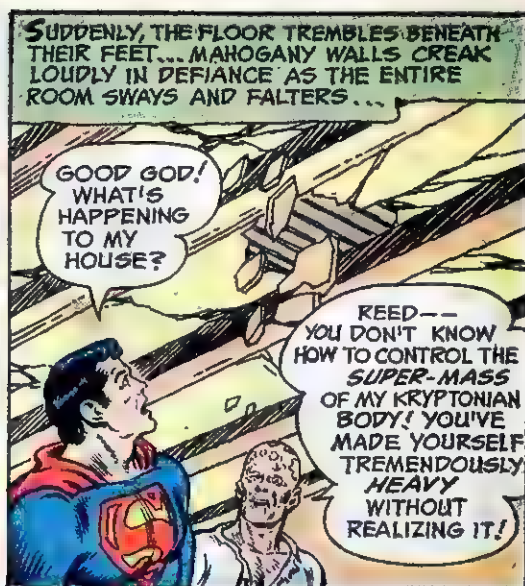
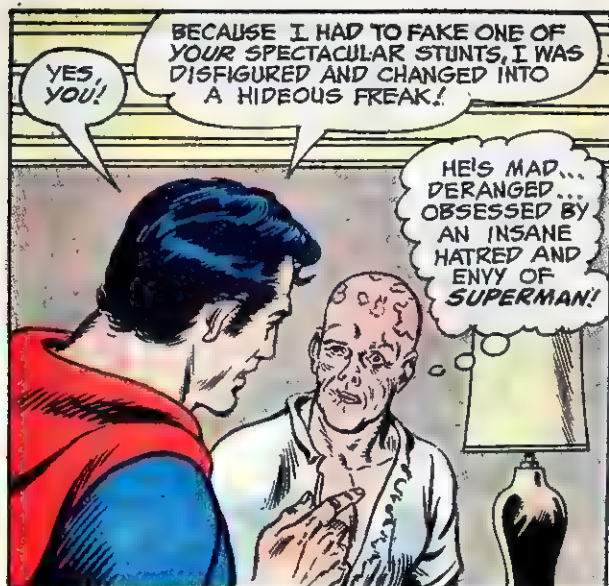


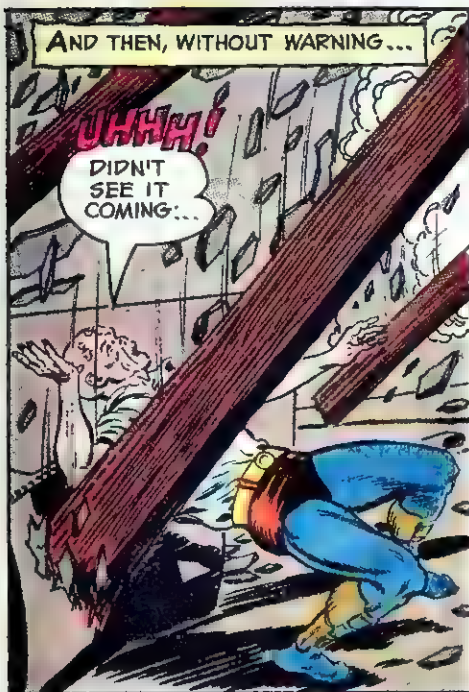
OVER 1000 FREE GIFTS YOURS FOR THE ASKING

This miracle book gives the addresses of associations, feed oral agencies and manufacturers that are anxious to send you ABSOLUTELY FREE samples, manuals and books. A fabulous treasure trove completely up to date which will bring you gifts worth many times its low cost.

No. 111

only \$1.00

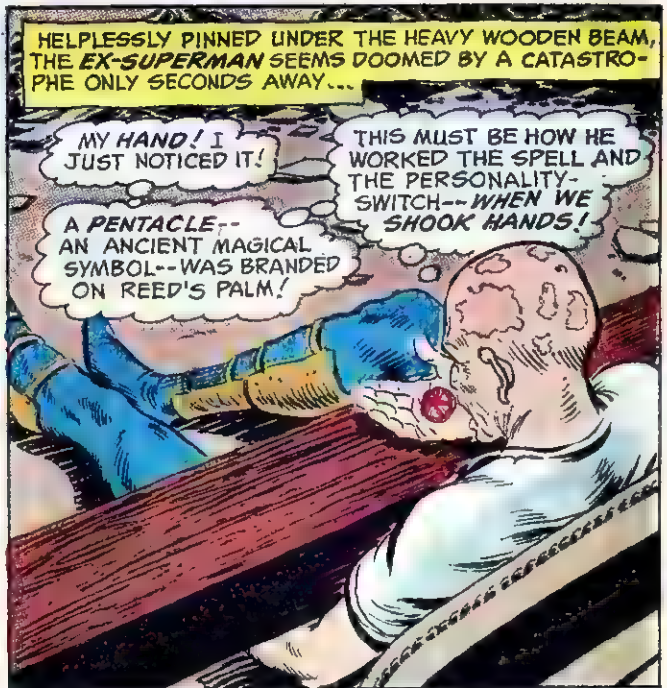




AND THEN, WITHOUT WARNING...

UHHH!

DIDN'T
SEE IT
COMING...

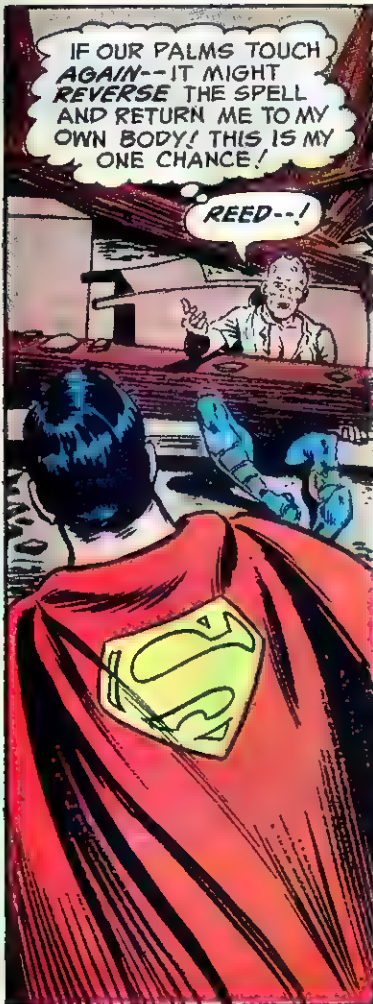


HELPLESSLY PINNED UNDER THE HEAVY WOODEN BEAM, THE EX-SUPERMAN SEEMS DOOMED BY A CATASTROPHE ONLY SECONDS AWAY...

MY HAND! I
JUST NOTICED IT!

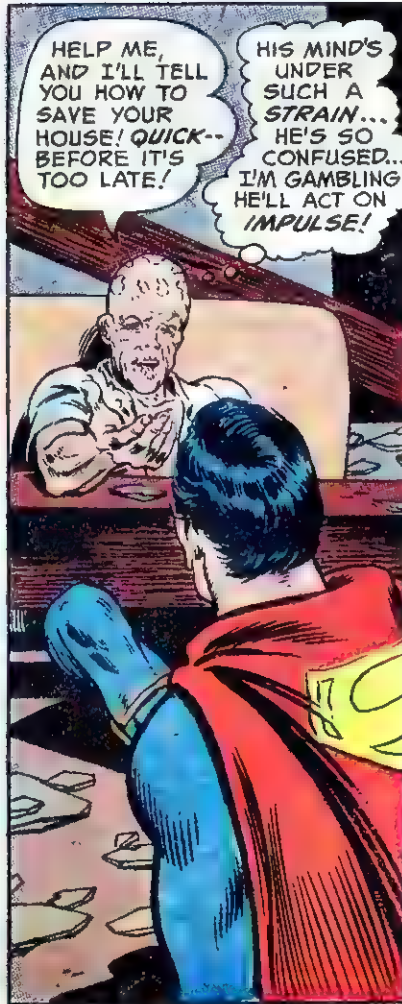
THIS MUST BE HOW HE
WORKED THE SPELL AND
THE PERSONALITY-
SWITCH-- WHEN WE
SHOOK HANDS!

A PENTACLE--
AN ANCIENT MAGICAL
SYMBOL-- WAS BRANDED
ON REED'S PALM!



IF OUR PALMS TOUCH
AGAIN-- IT MIGHT
REVERSE THE SPELL
AND RETURN ME TO MY
OWN BODY! THIS IS MY
ONE CHANCE!

REED--!



HELP ME,
AND I'LL TELL
YOU HOW TO
SAVE YOUR
HOUSE! QUICK--
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE!

HIS MIND'S
UNDER
SUCH A
STRAIN...
HE'S SO
CONFUSED...
I'M GAMBLING
HE'LL ACT ON
IMPULSE!



A-ALL RIGHT!
IF YOU SHOW
ME WHAT TO
DO--!

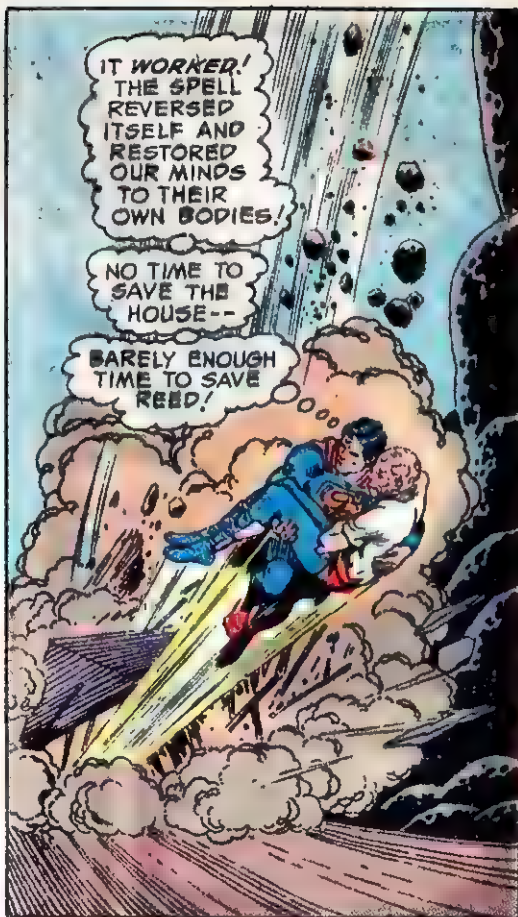
YET EVEN AS THE WORDS ARE SPOKEN, THE DOOMED MANSION PLUMMETS TOWARD VIOLENT DESTRUCTION ON THE CANYON FLOOR BELOW...



IT WORKED!
THE SPELL
REVERSED
ITSELF AND
RESTORED
OUR MINDS
TO THEIR
OWN BODIES!

NO TIME TO
SAVE THE
HOUSE--

BARELY ENOUGH
TIME TO SAVE
REED!



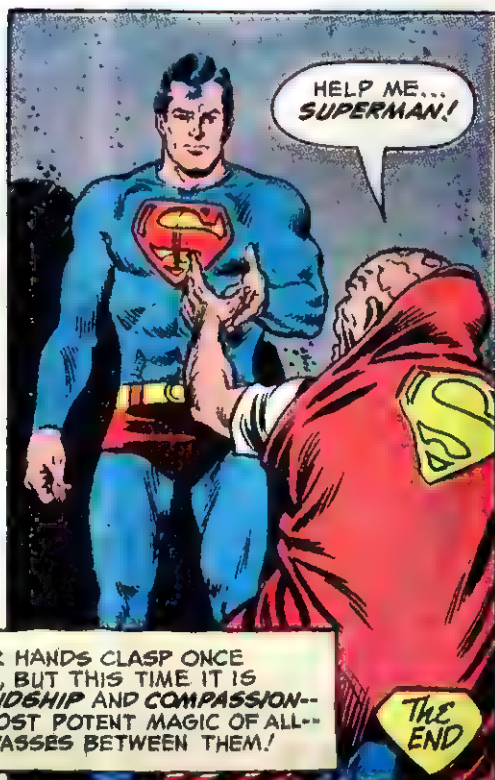
AND SOON, AFTER THE MAN OF STEEL HAS ADMINISTERED FIRST-AID TO THE TERRIFIED, TREMBLING *SUPERSTAR*...

LISTEN TO ME, REED!
I'VE EXAMINED YOUR
SCARS... AND IF A
PLASTIC SURGEON
GUIDES MY
HANDS THROUGH
A DELICATE
OPERATION...
I KNOW YOUR
FACE CAN BE
HEALED!

BUT I CAN'T
GIVE YOU MY
HELP IF YOU
DON'T WANT IT!



HELP ME...
SUPERMAN!



THEIR HANDS CLASP ONCE MORE, BUT THIS TIME IT IS FRIENDSHIP AND COMPASSION-- THE MOST POTENT MAGIC OF ALL-- THAT PASSES BETWEEN THEM!

THE
END

DIRECT CURRENTS

16

Sgt. Rock and his men are ordered to form a "Firing Squad"—to execute three members of **Easy Company** who have been found guilty of **treason!** How can the **Joos of Easy** shoot their own men? It's a real spot **Rock** and his boys are on in the **August OUR ARMY AT WAR (#248)**! Naturally, there'll be more action than this one story—but editor **Joe Kubert** hasn't let me in on the other goodies yet. However, you'll find out when it goes on sale—**June 1!**

Deadman gets a new body, fashioned by **THE FOREVER PEOPLE**, in the **September** issue of their magazine! But before he can enter it, the new form is stolen by "The Scavengers!" This criminal organization is one of the most vicious in history—and its leader has a hook instead of a right hand! Can he be the man who killed **Boston (Deadman) Brand?** Surprises mount in issue **#10**, on sale **June 1!**

Once again, we come your way with a gallery of **GHOSTS!** In this issue, the unearthly tales include "Death's Finger Points," "Touch Not This Tomb"—which I am told involves **President Lyndon Johnson**, though he is not actually in the story itself—and "The Sweet Smell of Death!" This **Sep-**

tember issue (**#7**) should be enough to give you a record crop of goose pimples—and it's on sale **June 1!**

The Haunted Tank begins its "Long Journey" out of Russia in the **September** issue of **G.I. COMBAT (#155)**—and it's no cinch! The whole tank has to be taken apart, piece by piece, first! This story by **Robert Kanigher**—illud by **Sam Glanzman**—has all the adventure, action and suspense anyone could want! There's another tale in the issue, as well—"Ashcan Alley!" It's on sale **June 8**—so get it!

Our own three witches have brewed up a cauldron of more than double toil and trouble in it for the **August** issue of **THE WITCHING HOUR (#22)**! First, there's "The Haunted Hands of Guilt"; then, "Pity me—Please Kill Me!"; and, finally, "13 Rue Morgue," which takes you to the fabulous street in which **Edgar Allan Poe** set his first detective story! I know you'd love to get your copy now, but you'll have to wait till it goes on sale—**June 8!**

Ever hear of a "Hitchhiker of Space"? **A Space Cable** becomes one in the **September** issue of **FROM BEYOND THE UNKNOWN (#18)**—when his taxi is stolen and he has to reach the planet **Jupiter** to recover it! There's also the tale of a man who killed in order to get to the future and met "The Man in the Mystery Mask!" Finally, the **Star Rovers** face the problem of "Who Saved the Earth?" Well, actually, they start out by knowing that each of them saved it—yet none can recall doing anything of the sort! How they saved this world is the big puzzle! On sale **June 8**.

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Rather than explain our new price policy personally, I've asked all our editors to tell you in their own way why there is a price reduction for this magazine.

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Carmine Infantino, Publisher.

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Last June, we were forced to raise the price of our magazines—there was simply no way we could retain the 15¢ price and also retain the quality you've come to expect from us in the thirty-plus years we've been entertaining you. Printing, engraving, shipping—everything, up to and including staples—was costing us more.

But we didn't want to charge more and not give more. A dilemma. We solved it by adding 16 extra pages to each of our comics. Sure, the material in them wasn't new—but those were and are, good stories—the best we could cull from our library. Well, the economic situation has changed again. (In fact, lately it's been changing faster than a chameleon on a patchwork quilt.) While we are forced to cut back, it means we can eliminate the reprint material—and reduce our price by a nickel. We will still be providing more for your money than any company in the field. How? All our magazines will soon contain additional pages of fresh excitement in story and art! No other publisher is offering you that deal. None is likely to. We offer greater quantity, as well as greater quality. We think that makes DC comics the best entertainment buy available now, as in the past. Honestly.

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Dorothy "Lois Lane" Woolfolk

Murray "Superboy" Boltinoff
Denny "Wonder Woman" O'Neil
Sol "Production" Harrison

Joe "Tarzan" Kubert
Jack "King" Kirby
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P.S. Note to subscribers: All subscriptions will be extended so that the additional issues you receive will make up for the difference between the new 20¢ price and the rate you paid, which was based on the 25¢ magazines.

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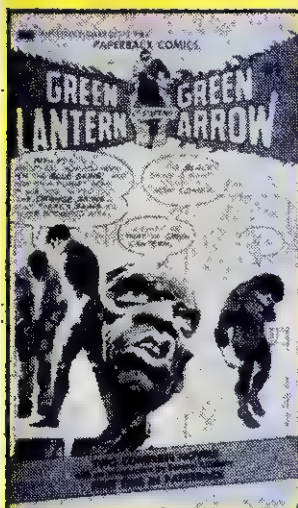
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BUT, TODAY, ITS HOLLOWED-OUT INTERIOR CONTAINS A BIZARRE SCENE--AS **METAMORPHO**, THE HUMAN CHEMICAL PLANT, FIGHTS AGAINST ENGLUFING LIQUID DEATH...

REX...THE FUMES...I'M CHOKING--

D-DON'T LET US DOWN...OLD BU-BUDDY!

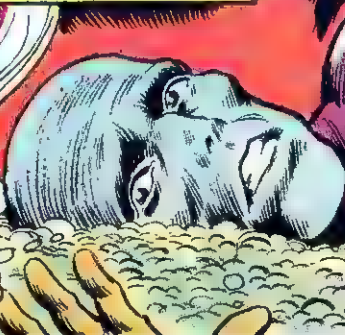


QUIET, BOTH OF YOU! I GOT TO CONCENTRATE ON MY CHEMISTRY... TRY A FEW FAST REACTIONS BEFORE THIS ACID SOUP DISSOLVES MY MOLECULES COMPLETELY!

DESPERATE, UNABLE TO ASSUME ONE OF HIS USUAL FANTASTIC FORMS AND ESCAPE--THE **ELEMENT MAN** WILLS HIS NUMB BODY TO ASSUME DIFFERENT CHEMICAL STATES...

UHHNNMMMMM! ALL I'M DOING IS MAKING IT WORSE!

THAT FINK STAGG NEVER TAUGHT ME ENOUGH CHEMISTRY--AFRAID I'D GET INDEPENDENT OF HIM! NOW IT'S HELPING TO DOOM SAPPHIRE--HIS OWN DAUGHTER!

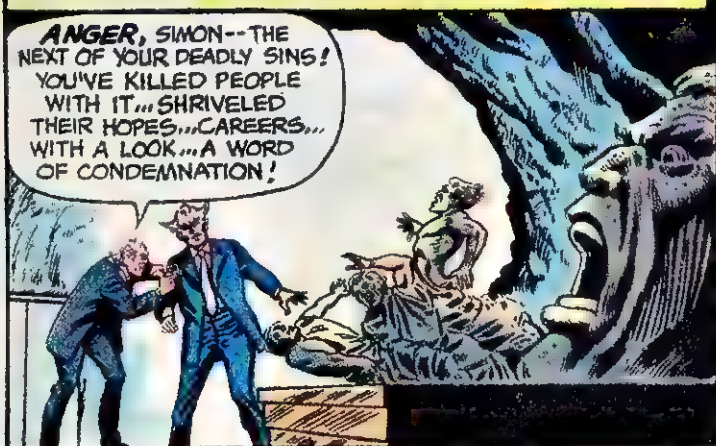


FADE OUT FOR A FREAK

AND NOW CONTINUING FROM LAST MONTH'S ISSUE OF **ACTION**, THE CONCLUSION OF THE STARTLING UNCENSORED SAGA OF "THE 7 SINS OF SIMON STAGG..."

JUST WHERE IS SIMON STAGG, TYCOON-GENIUS? IN ANOTHER PART OF **MORALITY MOUNTAIN**, HE IS "ENJOYING" A REUNION WITH ULYSSES BRONSON, AN OLD COLLEGE CLASSMATE...

ANGER, SIMON--THE NEXT OF YOUR DEADLY SINS! YOU'VE KILLED PEOPLE WITH IT... SHRIVELED THEIR HOPES... CAREERS... WITH A LOOK... A WORD OF CONDEMNATION!



BUT, ULYSSES, OLD FRIEND, WHEN YOU RISE HIGH, EVERY THOUGHT... WORD... GESTURE BECOMES SUPER-IMPORTANT.

BUT THE MAN **WITHIN** REMAINS HUMAN... FALLIBLE... PRONE TO ERROR! AM I TO BE CONDEMNED FOR MY ESSENTIAL HUMANITY?



FOR YOUR ESSENTIAL **INHUMANITY**, STAGG--I **CONDEMN** YOU! NOW BEHOLD THE FIFTH OF THE DEADLY SINS... **ENVY**! EVEN THOUGH YOUR OWN ACHIEVEMENTS WERE GREAT, STILL YOU ENVIED THOSE OF OTHERS!

THE SIXTH SIN--**SLOTH**!

COME NOW, BRONSON... HOW CAN YOU ACCUSE ME OF **THAT**? AS YOU SAY... MY ACHIEVEMENTS ARE GREAT!!



BUT YOUR GIFTS COULD HAVE BEEN USED TO **BETTER** ENDS--TO HELP OTHERS, RATHER THAN ENRICH YOURSELF!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE LATELY? SIMPLY DABBLE IN SCIENCE BETWEEN BOUTS OF INDULGING YOUR WHIMS!



CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING

ROGER'S SUPER SKITTLE BOWL

LOOK THAT'S
ROGER STAUBACH,
THE FAMOUS FOOTBALL STAR



YEAH, AND HE'S PLAYING WITH
THE BIGGEST SKITTLE BOWL
I'VE EVER SEEN.



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
ROGER?



JUST KEEPING IN SHAPE
DURING THE OFF-SEASON WITH
MY OLYMPIC SIZE
SKITTLE BOWL.



GEE, IT'S
GIGANTIC

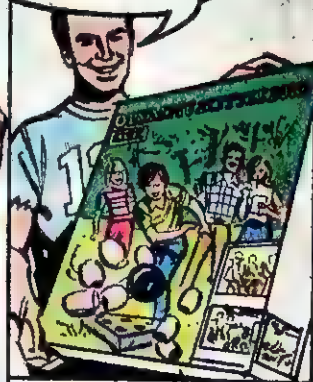
IT'S TALLER
THAN ME

NATURALLY
EVERYTHING'S
BIG IN TEXAS.

BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE
FROM TEXAS TO HAVE AN
OLYMPIC SIZE SKITTLE
BOWL.

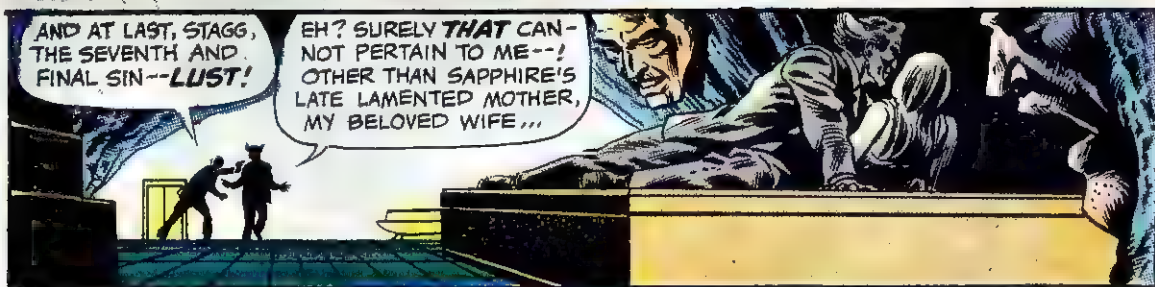


OLYMPIC SIZE SKITTLE
BOWL. IT'S LIKE HAVING
A BOWLING ALLEY IN
YOUR BACKYARD...
OR PLAYROOM.



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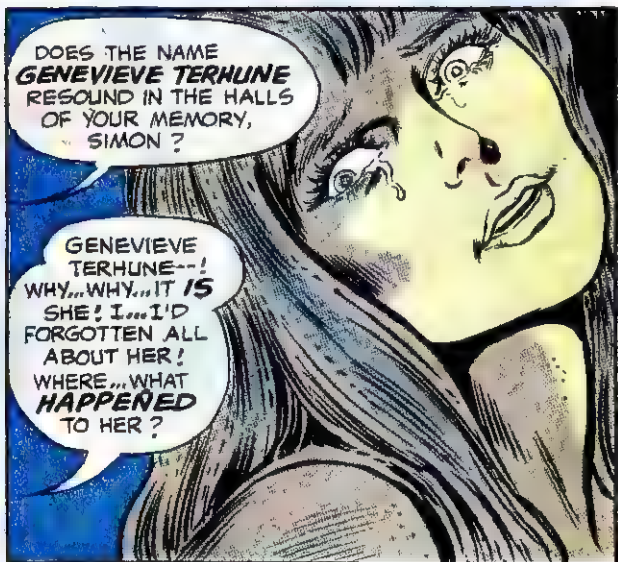
AND AT LAST, STAGG,
THE SEVENTH AND
FINAL SIN--**LUST!**

EH? SURELY **THAT** CAN-
NOT PERTAIN TO ME--!
OTHER THAN SAPPHIRE'S
LATE LAMENTED MOTHER,
MY BELOVED WIFE...



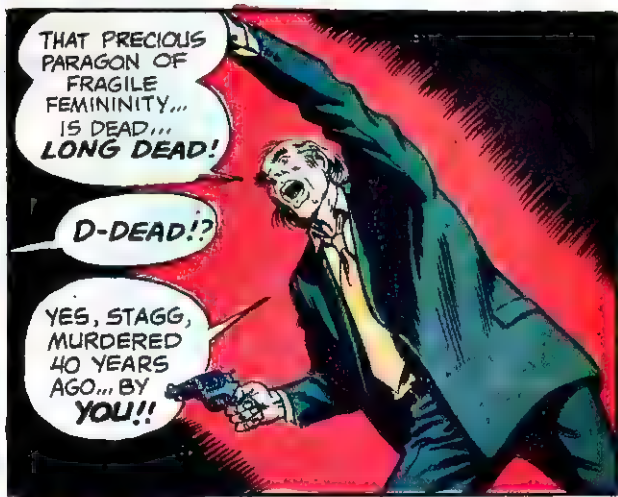
...I'VE KNOWN NO
OTHER WOMAN!
THAT GIRL--SHE
RESEMBLES
SAPPHIRE...
AND WHY
IS SHE IN
TEARS?

SHE **IS** LIKE YOUR
DAUGHTER, ISN'T SHE?
IT STRUCK ME WHEN I
MET HER! JUST AN
UNCANNY COINCIDENCE!
BUT I SEE YOU DON'T
RECOGNIZE THE GIRL
IN THIS EXHIBIT!



DOES THE NAME
GENEVIEVE TERHUNE
RESCOND IN THE HALLS
OF YOUR MEMORY,
SIMON?

GENEVIEVE
TERHUNE--!
WHY...WHY...IT **IS**
SHE! I...I'D
FORGOTTEN ALL
ABOUT HER!
WHERE...WHAT
HAPPENED
TO HER?



THAT PRECIOUS
PARAGON OF
FRAGILE
FEMINITY...
IS DEAD...
LONG DEAD!

D-DEAD!?

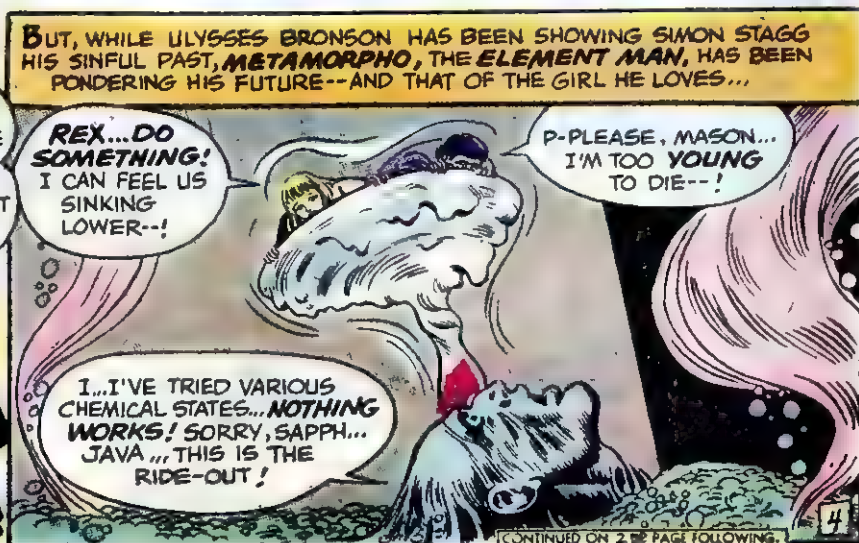
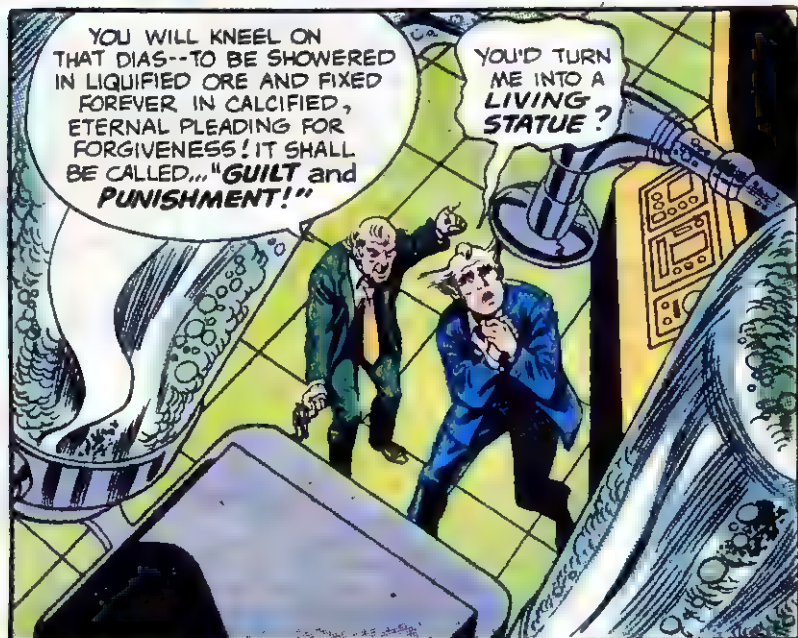
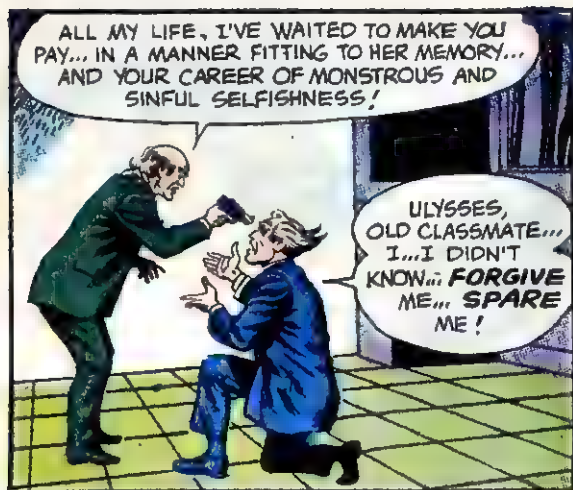
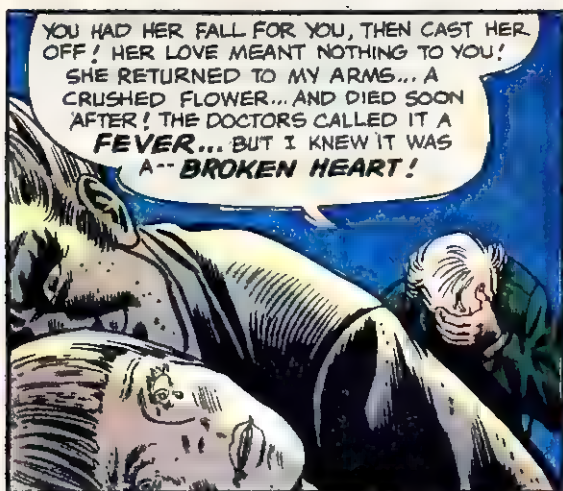
YES, STAGG,
MURDERED
40 YEARS
AGO... BY
YOU!!



**WHAT?!
MURDERED?!
I NEVER...!**

SILENCE!

IT **WAS** MURDER!
I LOVED HER AND
BELIEVED SHE LOVED
ME! BUT, LIKE EVERY-
THING ELSE, SHE WAS
WON BY **YOU**... DAZZLED
BY STAGG, **MR. NUMBER
ONE!**



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SUDDENLY...

F-FATHER!!

**GOOD STARS,
BRONSON! THIS IS
BEYOND BELIEF!
IT'S YOU WHO ARE
THE MONSTER,
NOT I!**

BLUE BLAZES!
IF I COULD JUST MUSTER
UP A **REAL** CHANGE, I'D
CLOBBER BRONSON...
BUT THIS SOUP'S LEFT
ME WITH LESS FIZZ
THAN AN OLD MAID'S
TEA POT!

DON'T ATTEMPT TO
SHAME ME, SIMON! YOUR
DAUGHTER DIES, **TOO**,
SINCE SHE IS THE SPAWN
OF YOUR SINFUL LIFE!
NOW SPEAK YOUR
LAST GOODBYES!

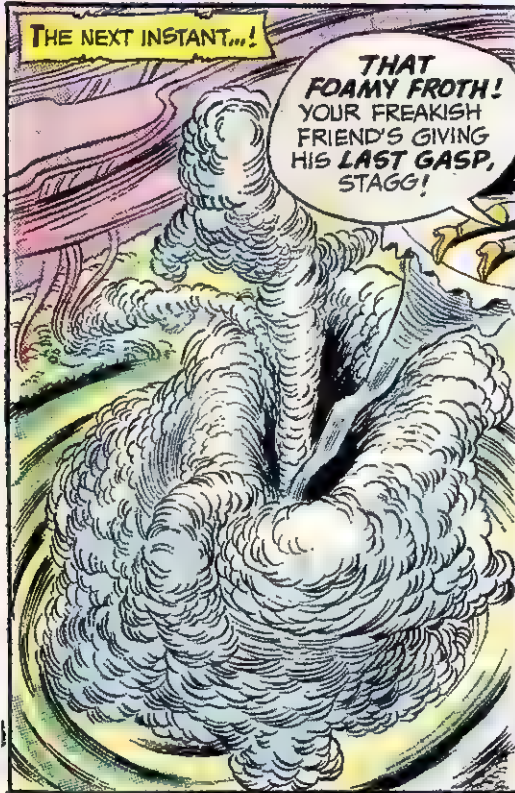
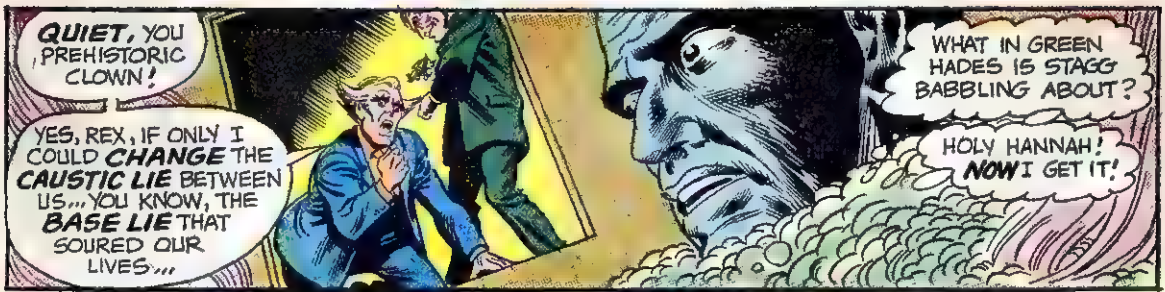
MAKE IT QUICK,
STAGGSY... I... I'M
DISINTEGRATING...
FAST!

SAPPHIRE... I'VE NOT
BEEN THE BEST FATHER
IN THE WORLD... BUT
I DEARLY LOVE YOU!

OH, DADDYKINS,
I... I LOVE
YOU, TOO!

METAMORPHO-
REX... SON... I... I'M
SORRY FOR WHAT I
DID TO YOU... THE
LIES... ALWAYS
LYING... I WOULDN'T
WANT A **LIE** BETWEEN
US BEFORE WE GO!

MASTER!
NO FAREWELL
FOR FAITHFUL,
LOYAL
JAVA?



HIS POWER TO EFFECT COMPLETE CHANGES RETURNED, THE **ELEMENT MAN** QUICKLY HAULS HIMSELF AND THE VAT'S OTHER WOULD-BE VICTIMS TO SAFETY...

OH, DADDYKINS... I'M STILL SHAKING! WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT **LIES**... BETWEEN YOU AND REX?

LYE, DAUGHTER, COMMON **CAUSTIC SODA**... SIMPLE SODIUM HYDROXIDE... YOU ALWAYS USE A CHEMICAL BASE TO NEUTRALIZE AN ACID!

YEAH, BABY, IT WAS ALL A CODE--AND OLD DUMBHEAD REX FINALLY DUG IT!

OH, LOVER, I DON'T ADORE YOU FOR YOUR **BRAINS**... JUST **EVERYTHING ELSE!**

WELL, STAGGSY, IT'S BEEN QUITE A GUIDED TOUR!

YES, AND BELIEVE ME, I'VE LEARNED A GREAT LESSON! I **HAVE** BEEN A...UH... BIT SINFUL... BUT FROM NOW ON SIMON STAGG WILL BE A **CHANGED MAN**!

MORALITY MOUNTAIN! AFTER WE ALTER THE FACES ON THE EXHIBITS, OF COURSE... IT'LL MAKE **MILLIONS**... EXPAND THE STAGG FAME EVEN MORE! IT'LL MAKE THE OTHER PUBLIC ATTRACTIONS LOOK SICK!

YESSIRREE, PEOPLE AREN'T AWARE OF HAVING THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS! IT'S MY DUTY TO WARN THEM!

HOLY BLUE HANNAH! HE JUST RAN THROUGH **THREE SINS** IN ONE SPEECH--**GREED**...**PRIDE**... AND **ENVY**... LIKE THE MAN WROTE... "the more things change, the more they stay the ever-livin' same!"

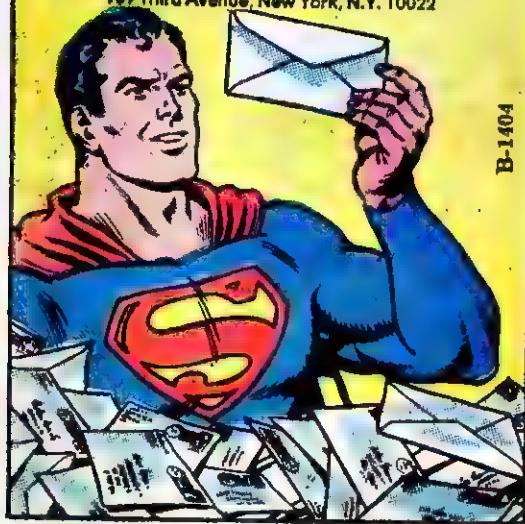
BUT WILL THINGS STAY THE SAME WITH THE FANTABULOUS FREAKISH LIFE OF THE **ELEMENT MAN**? FUTURE ISSUES COULD TELL--AND MAYBE CHANGE **YOUR LIFE!**

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Dear Editor:

"The Satanic Son of Superman" (ACTION #410) was the best thing you guys have come up with in years. The story was so good I read it five times—and then I bought it!

Krys was the perfect son for Superman. You couldn't have drawn a better one. And the lifeless Troivs were out of this world. I really liked the part about the twin Krys and his evil ways. Keep up the good work and the super art work.

Sam Timbrook, Erie, Pa.

Thanks—but don't you ever buy a comic BEFORE you read it? After all, you don't watch a movie before buying a ticket. —Ed.

Dear Editor:

Well... it seems Cary Bates blew it again! He wrote two great lead-off stories ("Superman, Bodyguard or Assassin?" and this month's "The Satanic Son of Superman") and ruined them with two simple words—imaginary story!

Rather than making them imaginary, the Superman you used in these stories could have been the Superman of Earth-Two. That is one hero I never hear anything about (I'm sure no one else knows much about him, either). Think about it.

Aquarius 3, Brooklyn, N.Y.

We've thought—and the obvious answer is—how could the different things in our imaginary tales all happen to one person? Besides, a lot is known about the Earth-Two Superman, Julie Schwartz, who's used him in JUSTICE LEAGUE, tells us that, as Clark Kent, he's married to the Earth-Two Lois Lane and is now editor of the Daily Star. —Ed.

Dear Editor:

One thing I have to say about your new imaginary stories—they sure are different from the old "Superman marries Lois and look what happens" tales. Up until now, who ever considered that the Man of Steel would wed anyone other than Lois Lane (or maybe

Lana Lang)? But in the latest issue of ACTION, you abandon that premise and give us a tale of Clark (not Supie) marrying a witch.

It was a refreshing idea and it made for a very interesting story. Krys deserves a return appearance, along with the android assassins and the rest of this new imaginary life you've created. How about it?

Bob Rozakis, Elmont, N.Y.

Well—maybe! But first we'll have to see if Cary can dream up a good plot for the sequel. Hear that, Cary? Get cracking! —Ed.

Dear Editor:

Who illustrated the cover of #410? I liked its simplicity, but it reminded me a lot of the cover which featured the Batman story, "Punish Not My Evil Son."

For a long while, I was under the impression that Cary Bates was infallible. Indeed, "The Satanic Son of Superman" boosted my conviction. In it, Cary displayed the quality which has restored "imaginary stories" to a level above the absurdities cited by a fan in a recent issue. This, plus the artists' resplendent drawings, kept my eyes glued to the page. This was one Superman tale in which the nominal errors were completely covered up by the overall grandeur of the story.

Then I read "Healing Hands from Beyond." I had to check the credits to make sure this was the fault of Cary. But since he seldom does a wrong story, I won't be the one to vilify him at the first sign of a fault.

However, maybe you, sir, should be chastized for ever thinking Curt Swan can be gotten rid of and easily replaced. You editors and your arbitrary whims will never cease to amaze me. Has even one out of one hundred readers said a word against Curt? Why put into effect such a ridiculous caprice as putting John Calnan on the pencils? This is the kind of doing that will ferment a wave of protest. At least I hope so.

Mark Lucke, Beeville, Tex.

It was no mere whim that put John on that story. It was a necessity—because Curt didn't have time to do it. But we've solved that by replacing the second Superman tale with Metamorpho. By the way, your "wave of protest" turned out to be a mere ripple. Oh—and that cover was the work of Nick Cardy. —Ed.

Dear Editor:

Thank heavens for ACTION COMICS, because it's still the one mag in which imaginary story fiends such as I can occasionally find a Superman "dimension-two" (if I may borrow Robin Jacobs's euphemism).

Needless to say (but I'll say it anyway), "The Satanic Son of Superman" was terrific. Cary Bates borrowed a little from "Bewitched" and "Rosemary's Baby" to produce a highly entertaining yarn, full of emotion, excitement and surprises (such as the twin brother). In fact, you'll have one ecstatic fan if you make imaginary tales a once-or-twice-a-year occurrence.

"Healing Hands from Beyond" was nothing new, but still all right. John Calnan's pencils were very good, and with Murphy Anderson's inks, it almost resembled Curt Swan's work.

For the umpteenth time, keep up the fine work.

Gerard Triano, Elmont, N.Y.

Thanks—we hope your enthusiasm isn't imaginary. —Ed.

Dear Editor:

Superman, through no fault of his own, represents "the Establishment." He believes that changes will come through due process, and he doesn't judge people guilty. He just arrests them. He believes in "the American Way," but he DOES NOT let anyone tell him what to say or believe. He is his own man.

Clark Kent is somewhat different. Kent was once a star reporter for "a great metropolitan newspaper." Now he's not even a man, but a face and a voice, reading the opinions of his boss as though they are facts. He never questions, he obeys. Morgan Edge is a shady character, and Clark, Jimmy Olsen and Perry White are aware of it. Yet these fine, upstanding citizens bend completely when faced with the loss of their jobs.

Kent should refuse to read Edge's editorials, and perhaps even quit. Olsen should do something about the raw deal he's been getting. Perry White should show integrity. Edge is bound to tell him what to print, and he should refuse—and get fired.

Jack Rems, Santa Monica, Calif.

Jimmy and Clark (as Superman) do something in the August issue of JIMMY OLSEN—when the final showdown comes between the Morgan Edge they've been working for and the REAL Edge, whom he's been impersonating! This issue should resolve all your misgivings about the heroes and their new boss. —Ed.



Dear Editor:

The lead story in #410, "The Satanic Son of Superman," had a rather good plot, even though the "imaginary" gimmick of an evil son of Superman has been used before. It was a bit padded, but the surprise ending (which DID surprise me) and the role of the Trolvs were both good. (How about an-

other story dealing with the Trolvs in more detail?)

The only serious fault was the explanation for Krys's "evil side." A science-fiction hero like Superman (as opposed to a supernatural one like the Phantom Stranger) should not deal with the supernatural "straight on," unless it's somewhat rationalized scientifically. Superman's wife revealing herself to be a witch (to which his only reaction is "Why didn't you tell me?") and that stuff about "magical blood mingling with Kryptonian blood" were both poor.

Cary Bates could just as easily have made her come from another planet or dimension, which would have explained the subsequent events equally well.

"Healing Hands from Beyond" was something else again. Unlike the previous story, this one utilized the supernatural well. The basic "eeriness" of such events, and the air of mystery surrounding the whole episode, were very good, and reminiscent of the excellent "Doorway to the Unknown" and "The Bride Cast Two Shadows," by Bates' stylistic predecessor, John Broome.

It was weakened by the previous story's treatment, though. You should NEVER use two supernatural stories in the same issue.

Richard H. Morrissey, Framingham, Mass.

How about this issue? Although we've got a dose of the old black magic in the Superman tale, Metamorpho is playing with his chemistry set—CORRECTION! He IS a chemistry set! Well, all in all, we're mighty PROUD of this issue—and although some of your comments ANGERED us, we'll SLOTHFULLY sit back and GREEDILY await the money from the mag's sales—OOPS! Looks like Staggsy's not the only one who's guilty of those seven deadly sins! —Ed.



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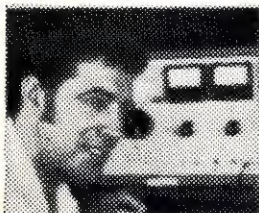
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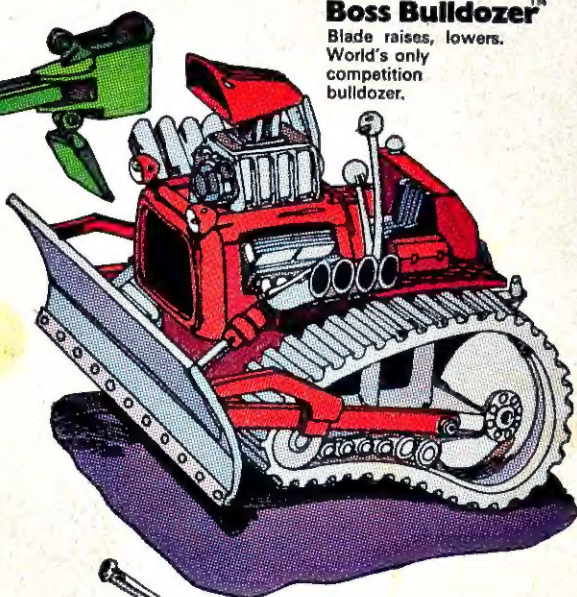
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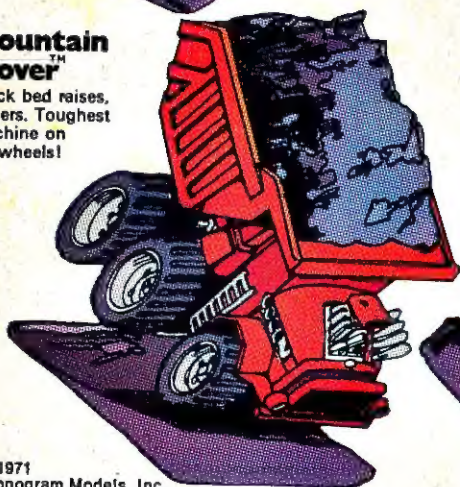
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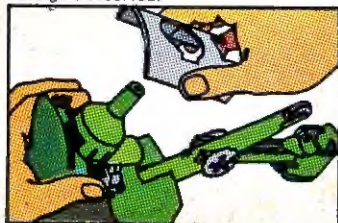


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